GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3295
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
SURVEY REGARDING SICKLE CELL PATIENTS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICMR, New Deli has conducted any survey regarding sickle-cell patients in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and district-wise;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal for setting up of care centres for treatment of sickle-cell thalassaemia patients; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d) According to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), sporadic studies conducted in 4 States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Orissa have revealed that its prevalence rate varies from 0.6% to 25% in the studied population. According to ICMR the disease is also prevalent in the States of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and North-Eastern region of the country. The ICMR has also stated that through its network of Institutes/Centres etc. it has carried out interventions and follow up activities in Sickle Cell Anaemia. As these disorders are hereditary in nature and there is no cure for them diagnostic facilities for Sickle Cell disorder and other genetic defects, carrying out population genetic survey to detect carriers and sufferers, providing health education, genetic counseling, marriage counseling and pre-natal diagnosis wherever required are being provided.